



**Praying  
Serving  
Sharing Jesus**

**Vestry Meeting  
(Election of Church Wardens)  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.00pm**

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.15pm**

**(Both meetings in the Church Hall)**

**The Parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town  
Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.15pm  
(Preceded by the Meeting of Parishioners)**



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**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Holy Trinity Heath Town Wolverhampton  
Registered Charity No: 1191259**

Praying – Serving – Sharing Jesus

The vision of the church is for the whole fellowship to express our love for God, for God's world and for the community through: -

Praying earnestly

Serving others wholeheartedly

Sharing our faith relevantly

Using our buildings appropriately

In order to bring Christian hope and the love of Jesus to all.

**Information for year ending December 2024**

**Reference & Administrative.**

**Church & Location:** Holy Trinity Church  
Bushbury Road,  
Heath Town  
Wolverhampton  
WV10 0LY

**Diocese:** Lichfield

**Incumbent:** Revd Richard Merrick  
Holy Trinity Vicarage  
Bushbury Road  
Wolverhampton  
WV10 0LY

**Assistant Curate** Revd. Kate Tingle (Until May 2024)

**Youth and Community Worker** Emma Hammond (Ordinand in Training)

**The Licensed Lay Ministers** Gill Brackett (Reader)  
David Hunter (Reader until December 2024)  
William Nicholls (Reader)  
Emma Bland (Reader)  
Robert Vassell (Reader)

**Area of Mission Team Leads.**

**Areas of Ministry**

**Mission lead**

Nurture

Emma Hammond

Pastoral Care

Gill Brackett

Proclaim

Emma Bland

Sustain & Renew

Robert Booth (until May 2024), Barbara Joyce (from May 2024 & Sylvia Gilbert

Transformation

Revd Kate Tingle (until May 2024),

**The members of the PCC from May 2024 were as follows;**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Basis of appointment</b>
Revd Richard Merrick (Incumbent/Chair)	Ex Officio
Sylvia Gilbert (Church Warden)	Ex Officio
Barbara Joyce (Church Warden)	Ex officio
Anne Abbiss	Ex-Officio (Safeguarding Officer)
Emma Bland	Ex Officio (Reader)
Gill Brackett	Ex Officio (Reader)
Margaret Nicholls	Ex officio (Deanery Synod Rep)
William (Bill) Nicholls	Ex officio (Reader with PtO, Deanery Synod Rep)
Robert Vassell	Ex officio (Reader)
Rita Duru	Ex officio (Deanery Synod Rep)
Sam Duru	Ex Officio (Diocesan Synod)
Donna C A Booth	Elected
Robert Booth (Deputy Church Warden)	Elected
Stephen Brackett (Deputy Church Warden)	Elected
Joshua Charles (Treasurer)	Elected
Tracey Charles	Elected
Nigel Clark (Deputy Treasurer)	Elected
David Cope (Lay Chair)	Elected
Elizabeth Cope	Elected
Jayne Forrester (Secretary)	Elected
Emma Hammond	Elected
Alison Vassell (Assistant Safeguarding Officer)	Elected

**Principal advisers;**

**Bankers;** Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Southway, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

**Architect;** Bryan Martin, 36 Banbury Lane, Byfield, Northants, NN11 6UX

**Independent Examiner;** Bytheway & Co, Heame House, 23 Bilston Street Sedgley DY3 1JA

**Structure, Governance & Management**

The PCC was first registered as a charity on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and APCM the Church Representation Rules.

P.C.C. members are appointed in several ways:

Clergy and Churchwardens are members by virtue of office.

Deanery Synod representatives are ex officio and are elected by the Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM) and hold office for 3 years.

Diocesan Synod Representatives are ex officio and are elected by Deanery Synod and hold office for 3 years.

General Synod representatives are ex officio and are elected by Diocesan Synod members and hold office for 5 years.

All Readers are ex-officio, and all Local Lay Ministers are co-opted annually. Other members of the PCC are elected annually for a three-year term or co-opted.

New PCC members are given induction training as necessary to enable them to carry out their role effectively.

The PCC makes all decisions corporately except that the standing committee (see below) has delegated powers to make decisions between PCC meetings subject to keeping the PCC informed as fully as necessary.

The PCC is responsible for all the parish finance. Members of the PCC give delegated responsibility to the Treasurer for keeping accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the PCC and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the PCC and to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting by Charities' 2015. The PCC is also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The PCC is also required to ensure that the financial statements are examined by an independent examiner or auditor prior to the presentation to the Annual Parochial Meeting.

**In addition, there is:**

**A Gift Aid Secretary**, appointed by the PCC to manage Gift Aid Systems.

**Standing Committee** –this committee consists of the Clergy, Churchwardens, and Treasurer and up to 5 representatives of the PCC. This group has power to transact the business of the PCC between PCC meetings, reporting to the full PCC as appropriate.

The PCC and Leadership Team meet at an annual Away Day and at appropriate times throughout the year.

The Parish is part of **the Deanery of Wolverhampton**, which is part of the Diocese of Lichfield.

### **Activities, Achievements & Public Benefit**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Usual Sunday attendance: Adults	114	100	101	*	*	80	82	89
Children	27	28	27	*	*	21	20	25
Christmas Eve/Day attendance :	563	451	403	69	329	420	451	494
Easter Day attendance:	173	181	187	*	115	129	138	148
Baptisms	4	12	13	1	10	5	14	11
Weddings	4	4	2	0	1	2	3	0
Confirmations	0	3	0	0	0	0	17	13
Funerals (church service)	14	14	16	18	16	8	11	9
Funerals (Crematorium)	17	18	14	18	16	14	4	4
Burials	5	4	5	11	7	3	5	5
Burials of Cremated Remains	7	9	9	8	10	9	5	5
Electoral Roll	173	173	137	140	142	143	149	155

\* It is impossible to give accurate figures as many services were streamed online.

The Mission Action Plan is reviewed annually. This provides the structure for mission and ministry.

- There are normally two services each Sunday morning. (9.30 am & 11.15am), which were live-streamed most weeks. Services were also held at other appropriate times in the church calendar. The church continues to serve the wider community by offering 'occasional offices' for baptism, confirmation, marriage, and funerals. In addition, the church is open each Saturday as a "Place

of Welcome”; providing free light refreshments, friendship and hospitality, local information and the opportunity for anyone to experience the peace and beauty of the building.

- The church hall is normally well used by a number of community groups for activities ranging from Trinity Toddlers, young people’s work, Coffee + Chat Club, Community Friendship Group, children’s parties and various committee meetings, holiday clubs, baby group and family fitness group.
- Members of PCC serve on Deanery and Diocesan Synods.
- The Church Worship Team visited Trinity Primary Academy weekly during term time. Church members serve on the Local Academy Committee of Trinity Primary Academy.
- The work of a Youth and Community Worker continued.

### **‘Inclusion for all’**

#### **A church where people of all abilities are valued ‘to belong’.**

We all want our churches to be places of welcome for all: our church communities are only whole when they include everyone. However, there may be barriers, visible or invisible, of which we are not aware. Churches have responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010, which encompasses all the requirements of the earlier Disability Discrimination Act, and also introduces further duties in relation to disability discrimination. In terms of the legal framework, a church is considered to be a voluntary sector organization, and a provider of services.

Our aim is to ensure our buildings, worship and activities are welcoming and inclusive to all people. In order to play our part in the life of our church, we all need to feel that we ‘belong’.

#### **In all we do as a church, we should aim:**

- to recognise our equality and to value our diversity.
- to bring about positive and lasting change.
- to identify and remove barriers to ‘inclusion’.

In the way we organise all areas of Ministry, inclusion needs to be a priority. **It is important that we keep asking the question in all our discussions: “Is there anyone who we are unintentionally excluding from what we organise?”** We need to recognise the diverse needs and aspirations of our congregation; taking into account the young, elderly, families, people who are unfamiliar with church, L.G.B.T.Q.+, and people with impairments. A reference manual has been created to give information about exclusion issues and is available on request to all congregation members. Clergy, office, and ministry team leaders also have copies.

#### **Plans.**

Throughout all activities, the PCC is mindful of the importance of Risk Assessment taking place.

The members of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission’s guidance on the Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit. Members believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively within the Ecclesiastical Parish. In doing so it provides a benefit to the public by;

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers, and
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individual and society as a whole.

Throughout all activities, we aim to implement our Vision Statement by caring, supporting and serving each other, caring for God’s world and sharing the love of Jesus with all.

## **Standing Orders 2025**

- (i) Church Wardens will be elected for one year at a time.
- (ii) No Church Warden will be able to stand more than six consecutive years before having to stand down for at least a year.
- (iii) Number of elected PCC members should not exceed 12 (excluding Church Wardens, General, Diocesan and Deanery Synod members) and will stand (as long as they are willing) for three years. If at any time a PCC member wishes to stand down, for whatever reason, before the end of their three years, the vacated place can be filled by either co-option by the PCC or election at the next APCM. In either case, however, the term of office will run for the length of time left on the vacancy.
- (iv) All candidates for election to the PCC or Deanery Synod, when held, must be nominated and seconded in writing by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before the APCM and details of the candidates will be posted in church the Sunday before the APCM. The only exception to this being if there are insufficient nominations to fill the vacant posts by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, in which case nominations will be accepted up to the day before the APCM. No nominations for these positions will be taken at the APCM. Nomination slips will be provided.
- (v) No person can hold more than one of the following positions at any one time:- Church Warden, Treasurer, Stewardship Recorder, Secretary, Electoral Roll Officer.
- (vi) All Readers are ex-officio members of the PCC and all Local Lay Ministers are co-opted annually as members of the PCC.
- (vii) The leadership team will provide up to five representatives to sit on the PCC. These will normally come through normal electoral procedure.

NB It is recommended that deputies be appointed to the Key positions in (v)

**Holy Trinity Church Heath Town**  
**APCM Agenda 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**Meeting of Parishioners (the Vestry Meeting). 7.00pm**

1. Welcome and Opening Worship.
2. Standing Orders for year 2026 elections
3. Election of Church Wardens.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting. 7.15pm**

1. Opening Prayers
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the A.P.C.M held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024
4. Matters Arising
5. Vicar's report
6. Electoral Roll – Changes in Membership from previous year
7. Annual PCC Report
8. Treasurer's Finance Report & Appointment of Independent Examiner
9. Fabric Report Buildings and Grounds [Wardens]
10. Deanery Synod Report
11. PCC Elections & Appointment of Stewards
12. Appointment of Sides-persons
- 13.A.O.B.
- 14.Closing Prayers



## **Annual Parochial meeting of Holy Trinity Heath Town on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024**

### **Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting) at 7.15 pm**

The meeting was chaired by Revd. Richard Merrick (Vicar) who welcomed 27 people present. The meeting opened with prayer.

7 apologies were **received**.

**Review of Standing Orders** . Proposed by Revd. R Merrick and seconded by D.M Booth that there were no amendments to Standing Orders. This was agreed by all present.

#### **Election of Churchwardens**

Sylvia Gilbert Proposed by R. Booth Seconded by Anne Abbiss.

**Note** R. Booth had indicated that he wished to stand down as Churchwarden but would become deputy warden along with S. Brackett.

This meant that there was a vacancy for churchwarden. The chair expressed a desire for this post to be filled as soon as possible.

The Vestry meeting concluded with prayer.

### **Annual Church Meeting followed at 7.30pm**

1.The Revd. Richard Merrick welcomed 27 people to the meeting.

2 The meeting began with prayer & worship.

3 The chair explained the agenda for the meeting

4 Presentation of A.P.C.M Booklet containing Reports of all activities in 2023

5 Electoral Roll 155

6 Minutes of A.P.C.M for previous year.

7 Matters arising

8 Electoral Roll – changes in membership from previous year.

9 Annual P.C.C Report.

10 PCC Financial Report & approval of accounts for 2023.

11 Sustain & Renew Report ( Wardens) previously called Fabric Report.

12 Reports from Deanery & Diocese.

13 PCC Elections..

14 Appointment of Sidespeople

15.Closing Prayer.

**Note** The following Reports are enclosed in the APCM booklet - Sustain & Renew, Nurture, Pastoral Care, Proclaim, Transformation.

**The Reports were accepted unanimously by all present.**

**The chair invited questions on the Reports.**

As addendum to the Reports the Chair said that weekly prayer meetings were not recorded & he felt that we should all take more responsibility for the prayer life of the community & in the unity of the love of Christ. At HTHT we had seen answered prayers. We should pray for more folk to come forward into ministry.

The Chair extended his thanks to all engaged in the mission & ministry of the church throughout the year. He mentioned the work of Anne Abbiss (Safeguarding Officer) & her assistant Alison Vassell, the admin team comprising Liz Cope & Anne Hope ( due to retire in June 2024), The Finance Team; ,Josh, Nigel & Tony. To those who care for the church & grounds & the wonderful witness it gave to the community. Also thanks were extended to the myriad of volunteers working in many different ways.

**A question was asked regarding if & when the shared cup at Holy Communion** would be introduced. It was noted that some churches, including the cathedral, offered both. People expressed that they missed sharing the cup & could there be teaching on the significance of a common cup ('Do this in remembrance of me') others noted that cross infection was still apparent.

The chair said the P.C.C would discuss this matter in June 2024.

Then followed **the Financial Report. N. Clark & J Charles** directed the meeting to the approved accounts. The Financial Statement highlighted the meaning of Restricted & Designated Funds. The Pie charts on page 12 were explained & it was emphasised that voluntary giving was down which indicated the need for a Stewardship Campaign in the not-too-distant future.

The Treasurer proposed & Assistant Treasurer seconded that **Bytheway & Co** continue as Independent Examiners. This was agreed by all.

Revd R. Merrick thanked the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer & Gift Aid Secretary for all that they do to ensure the Church's finances are in good order,. He proposed that the meeting accept & approve the accounts. This was agreed by all & was followed by applause from all present.

### **Elections**

The meeting was informed that Sylvia Gilbert had been appointed churchwarden & that there was still a vacancy for another warden.

**PCC Elections** Revd. R. Merrick, Revd. K. Tingle, D. Booth, R. Booth, S. Gilbert, A. Abbiss, E. Bland,  
G. Brackett, S.Brackett, J. Charles, T. Charles, N. Clark, D. Cope. E. Cope, R. Duru, S. Duru, J. Forrester  
E. Hammond, M.Mills, M. Nicholls, W. Nicholls, A. Vassell

### **Appointment of Sidespeople**

The chair thanked all involved in this task, along with the "welcomers" but there was a need to recruit more people.

Revd R Merrick concluded the meeting by formally thanking Kate for her ministry among us, and wished her well as she moved on as Rector at St. Thomas's Wednesfield, then presented Margaret Nicholls with some flowers on her retirement as PCC Secretary

Bill Nicholls offered a vote of thanks to Richard & Kate for leading us through another challenging year.

The meeting ended in prayer at 8.30pm & was followed by a shared supper.

### **Margaret Nicholls**

***PCC Secretary until May 2024***

### **Electoral Roll Report**

Number of people on the Electoral Roll were as follows

2023:149, 2024, 155.

The roll has been fully revised for 2025, with everyone completing a new electoral roll form. The roll currently stands at 121.

### **PCC Report**

The PCC met on four occasions in 2024/5 to discuss the business of the church and to receive reports from the Ministry Teams – Nurture, Pastoral Care, Proclaim, Sustain & Renew, and Transformation.

The meetings open with short act of worship and a reading from the bible and close in prayer at the end of the formal business.

At each PCC meeting, we receive an update on Finance, Buildings & Grounds (from wardens), Synods, and Safeguarding as well as the Ministry Teams and there is an opportunity to consider any current issues and make decisions relating to spending money.

In all our dealings with people, the P.C.C. of Holy Trinity Heath Town recognizes that everyone is vulnerable at some time in their lives. As such the P.C.C. undertakes to adopt the following documents and implement them as parish policy for Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults, Diocese of

Lichfield Safeguarding Policy, All God's Children, Promoting Safe Church, Safeguarding social media and online activities, Lone Worker and Taking of photographs.

Mrs Anne Abbiss is our Safeguarding Officer. She is responsible for ensuring that all people in positions of leadership have the current up-to-date certifications and all are familiar with any changes in legislation, to this end the P.C.C. review procedures on an annual basis.

The Ministry Team reports provide detailed information and updates about the wide range of activities and issues we are involved in both in church and in the wider community – the APCM Reports provide excellent summaries about what has been achieved in the past year

Attendance at the PCC meetings is very good, with PCC members take an active part in the discussions and decision making. Thank you to all members of the PCC for their willingness to serve on the church council and represent the congregation of Holy Trinity Church

**Jayne Forrester**  
**P.C.C. Secretary**

## Financial Report

This report relates to the financial activities of the Holy Trinity Heath Town Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 and should be read in conjunction with the Financial Statements.

The Balance Sheet on page three of the Financial Statements is supported by an attached chart which includes a breakdown of the Restricted Funds at year end. The following table summarises funds:

Unrestricted Funds	£17,568	
Designated Funds	£3,000	
Restricted Funds	£37,563	Excluding Kitchen capital of £86,645
Total Funds	£58,131	

In 2024, expenditure exceeded income by £13,894. Unrestricted funds increased by £461, with restricted funds causing the shortfall. The youth work fund in particular saw a fall of £9,021 as grants received in previous years were spent.

Income and Expenditure at notes 2 and 3 in the Financial Statements (pages 5 to 8) are supported by two pie charts to show the relative values. The Expenditure pie chart also includes a summary of the Statement of Financial Activities, given in full on page two.

The Diocesan loan of £23,150 to support the Kitchen Served project started to be repaid quarterly from December 2022 over a 7-year period, with a balance at end of 2024 of £16,129. Interest during the year totalled £1,023.

We have now seen voluntary income from church members recover after a period of reduced income for a few years following the lasting effect of the Covid-19 pandemic. For several years before 2020, normal weekly regular voluntary income had been about £1,000 before falling during the pandemic then rising to £1,113 in 2022 but 2023 had dropped to £1,078. For 2024, this had risen to £1,091. This was partly due to the effect of our stewardship campaign across four Sundays in June and July, 'Our Commitment to Giving,' where each of us was encouraged to reconsider our own giving. We are grateful to all who engaged with this. When examining the year in two halves to see the effect of the campaign, the average regular voluntary income was £1,025 between January and June and £1,158 between July and December.

The Gift Aid scheme where the church is able to claim from HMRC an additional 25p for every £1 given by income taxpayers continues to provide a much-needed boost. The amount we were able to claim had noticeably reduced in 2020 but seems now to have recovered, after we were able to claim £13,589 for 2021/22 and £13,805 for 2022/23. For the year to 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024, we were able to reclaim £11,201 in Gift

Aid. The date of the tax year end means that this did not take into account increased regular giving from the stewardship campaign or one-off donations for Gift Day.

For many years total expenditure has been variable mostly due to one-off and irregular items of expenditure. In 2023 total expenditure was £7,600 lower than 2022 and 2024's total expenditure of £162,560 was £29,698 greater than 2023. When considering only unrestricted expenditure, 2024 saw an increase of £4,988. Expenditure from restricted funds increased by £24,710 which was largely attributable to the urgent roof repair work that was covered in full by generous donations and grants.

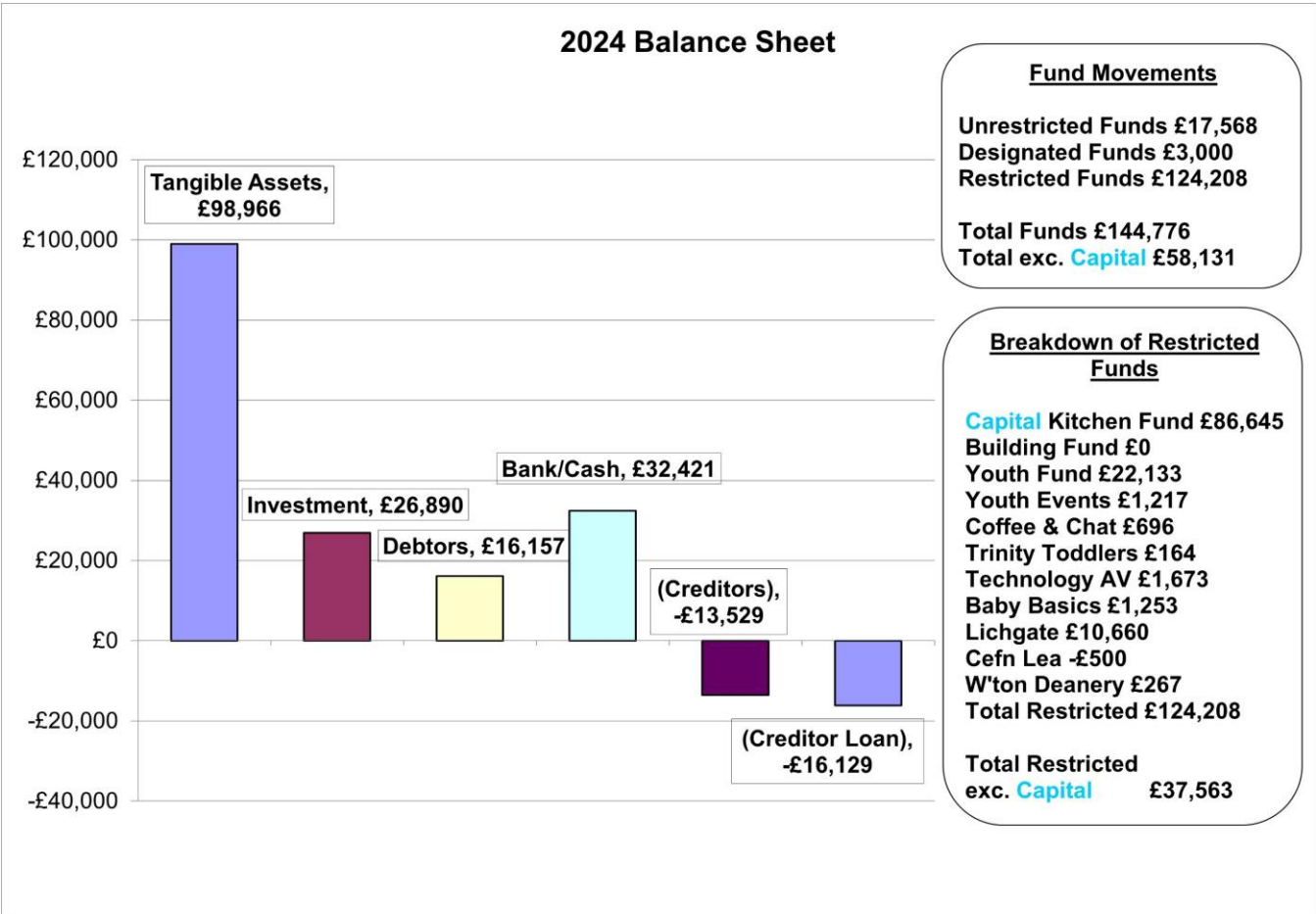
The Parish Share was again paid in full in 2024. This amounted to £33,131 for the year.

For many years, the PCC has donated 10% of voluntary giving to mission organisations and this was maintained in 2024. This included supporting the work of Love Black Country for the first time this year.

Despite the vast sums of money we spend each year on our buildings and grounds, the need for further work is ever present. In future, there is work planned to improve the north porch, the wall on Bushbury Road is leaning inwards, further repairs to other parts of the roof are needed and the state of the car park has not gone unnoticed. It is hoped that the building projects will be supported by grant funding but this will not cover the full cost.

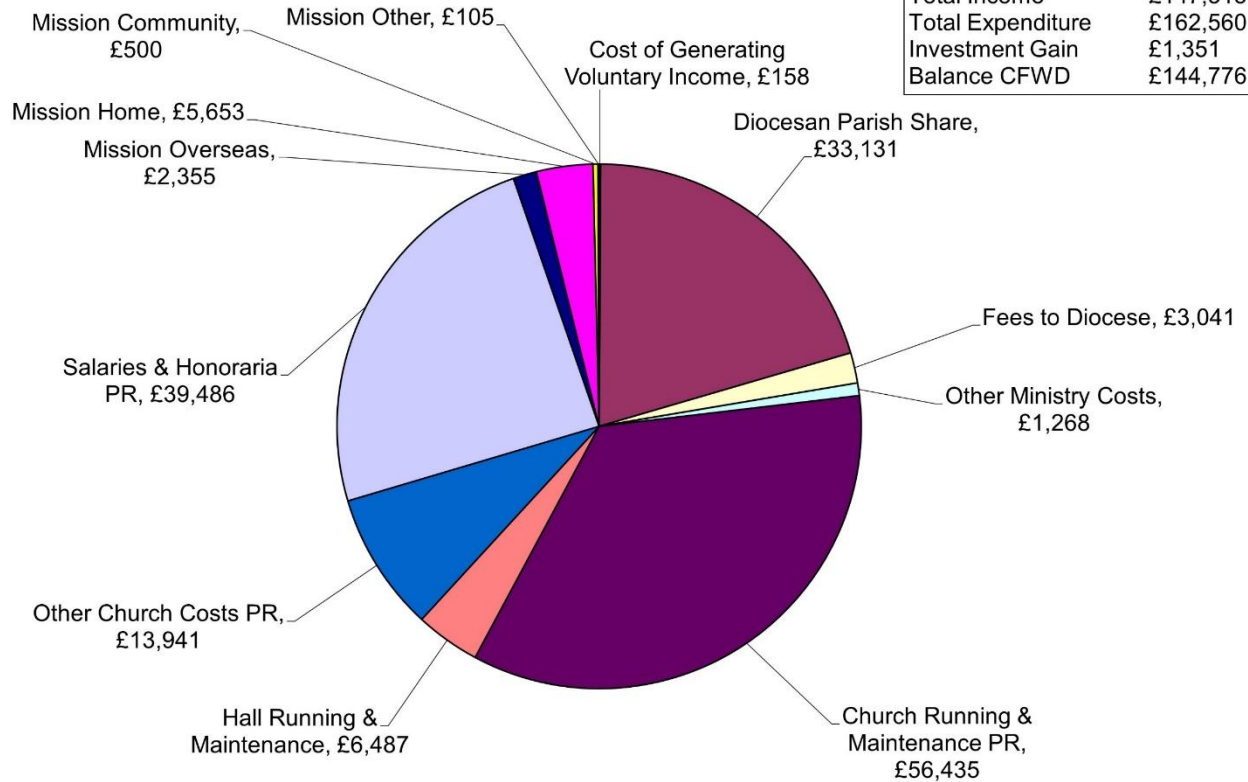
The PCC always attempts to act responsibly with the resources given to achieve our mission as focused in our vision statement, while supplying the needs of the church and the community while avoiding waste. We recognise that none of our activities detailed in this booklet would be possible without the abundant giving of so many people, for which we are immensely grateful. In 2025 may we continue to be a church that reflects God's generosity to us in our giving to the work of His Church.

**Joshua Charles**  
*Treasurer*



## 2024 Total Expenditure Analysis

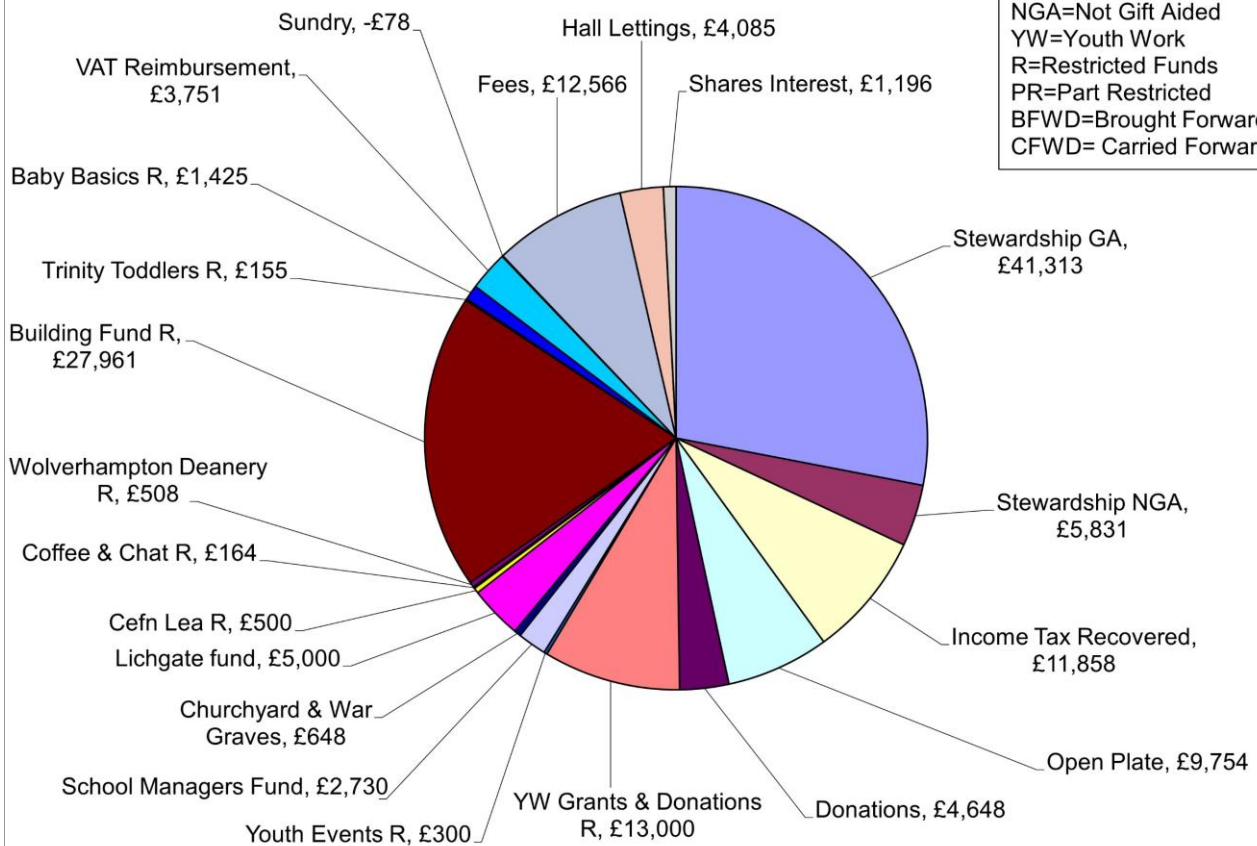
SOFA 2024 Summary	
Balance BFWD	£158,670
Total Income	£147,315
Total Expenditure	£162,560
Investment Gain	£1,351
Balance CFWD	£144,776



## 2024 Total Income Analysis

### Abbreviations for All Charts

GA = Gift Aided  
 NGA=Not Gift Aided  
 YW=Youth Work  
 R=Restricted Funds  
 PR=Part Restricted  
 BFWD=Brought Forward  
 CFWD= Carried Forward



## Vicar's Report

Another busy year at Holy Trinity Heath Town, with many blessings and challenges, accompanied by departures and arrivals along the way.

Having been appointed as Rural Dean in September of 2023 and in the absence of an episcopal area bishop in Wolverhampton I was invited to represent The Church at the annual civic Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations. In doing so I addressed the issues relating to antisemitism and the injustices of racial discrimination that continue to blight the lives of people around the world.

As we celebrated Black History Month, officially for the third year in succession at Holy Trinity, we were again reminded of the importance of recognising and acknowledging the significant roles that Black people of African and African-Caribbean heritage have played in the life of our nation and community, and who continue to do so today. Of equal importance was to mark this as a stand against the injustice and racial discrimination that is still an issue within our own nation. This is also reflected in our commemorations of Racial Justice Sunday, which gives us the opportunity to celebrate the diversity of the Body of Christ of which Holy Trinity Heath Town is so clearly representative.

The mission and ministry of Holy Trinity Church encompasses many aspects of what it means to serve God's Kingdom purposes in our community. Not least our acts of worship. I am as always grateful to those who plan, prepare and lead our services of worship, and to those, who in preaching, share God's word with us in such fulfilling ways. Although Prayer and Worship is a significant and important part of our life together as the family of God, it is not the only way we seek to serve the Lord.

Outreach extends beyond the walls of the church into our schools, and connections with various community groups. Also, with initiatives such as the Kids Eco Clothes Bank, Baby Basics, the Friendship Group, Coffee and Chat, and our Place of Welcome, alongside our connections to international and local charities. Sadly, during the year Trinity Toddlers ceased to operate. However, we trust that this is only temporary. There are hopes and expectations that this will begin again.

Our connection to our local schools, provided through our Youth & Community Worker and the Church Worship Group leading worship on a weekly basis in Trinity Academy, as well as through those church members who are included on the Local Academy Committee (jointly with St Jude's Tettenhall) ensure that the church is actively engaged in proclaiming the Good News in practical and loving commitment. This was also evident as we once again engaged with the Counties Life Exhibition jointly with other churches in our area. Some 600+ children were engaged with the life, work and words of Jesus during that week.

In all that we do on a daily basis we are more than ably supported by our Parish Administrators. Their work behind the scenes often goes unnoticed but it is essential to the functioning of the life of the church. So, my thanks go out to Liz Cope, and Anne Hope, who after some six years in post retired in the summer, and to Alison Vassell who has taken up Anne's responsibilities.

Indeed, my thanks are due to everyone who is engaged in the life, work, mission and ministry of our church. I hesitate to offer names as I would almost inevitably miss someone out. So to the PCC, Licenced Ministers and Mission Teams, Safeguarding Officers and Finance Team, Musicians, Preachers and Worship Leaders, the volunteers who enable the multiple groups to run and to those who offer hospitality and welcome - thank you!

All of what you all do has enabled me to undertake responsibilities beyond the parish. Not least as Area (Rural) Dean. I have made the point to the new Bishop of Wolverhampton, who agrees, that having a "Rural" Dean in a city doesn't make a great deal of sense, and so I have unofficially adopted the title of Area Dean. Nevertheless, the work is the same. Offering support for churches in vacancy – Engaging with Chaplaincies in the NHS and Brinsford YOI and not least with the University and our engagement during fresher's week. As well as the regular commitments to the Deaney and the regional leadership of the Wolverhampton Episcopal Area Pastoral Committee.

2024 concluded my time on Diocesan Synod, on which I had served for three cycles, as I did not seek re-election for the current trimester. However, I continue as a Bishop's Adviser on the Church of England's National Discernment Team, which involves what are called Stage One Carousels and Stage Two Panels- interviewing candidates for potential ordination, which is an intense process. I also offer my services as Chaplain to the local branch of the National Association of Retired Firefighters.

Funerals for church members have not been insignificant this year and not least for my own immediate family as well as for church family members as well. We said farewell to our dear friends, Lionel Kendall, Stephen Bennett, and to David Hunter who served the church faithfully as Reader, exercising such a valuable teaching and preaching ministry and offering wise counsel and friendship to so many, over the years.

We also said farewell to the Revd Kate Tingle, albeit in much more joyous circumstances, as she concluded her ministry among us here as Assistant Curate to take up the reigns as the Team Rector of Wednesfield Parish. There is a little irony here knowing that Holy Trinity Heath Town was originally established as a church plant from St. Thomas Wednesfield. A return of a favour in some respects.

The finances of our church are always a factor in our PCC discussions, and the results from our Stewardship Campaign conducted during the year were not insignificant. In straightened times the fact that people were able to increase their giving was a blessing. Although this was countered with the reality of natural demographic changes, a consequence of which our income also dropped by a similar amount. How we each as church members consider our giving to the work of the church is something that we need to keep to the fore of our prayers.

In November at our PCC Away Day we considered the subject of Succession Planning. What do we need to do to prepare for my retirement at the end of 2025? One thing that we must not do is to worry about this. If I have learnt anything over the years is that all good things come in God's timing. God is Jehovah Jireh, the One who provides. When we commit ourselves to the Lord's purpose and uphold the values of the Kingdom of God and proclaim the Good News afresh, His purpose will be fulfilled. The most important thing we can do in this regard is to continue to pray, "Your Kingdom come, your will be done."

**Revd Richard Merrick**  
*Vicar*

## **Lichfield Diocesan Synod Report**

### **General Overview**

The Synod convened three times over the year, with Bishop Michael's Presidential Address that contextualized the Church's mission amid global and domestic crises. Citing the UN and Pope Francis, Welby acknowledged global instability, including wars and climate concerns. Domestically, he addressed poverty, broken families, and abuse, referencing Psalm 56 and apologizing for the Church's safeguarding failures, particularly the collapse of the Independent Safeguarding Board (ISB).

The Business Committee emphasized the value of weekend meetings, ongoing work on church governance, responses to the Gaza ceasefire, and dealing with personal attacks on Synod members. The **Vacancy in See** report approved remote meetings and clarified CNC election procedures. The **Diocese of London** successfully moved to reverse the 2020 change on funeral fees, allowing parochial church councils (PCCs) to reclaim those costs.

### **Key Topics Discussed**

#### **Safeguarding and ISB Failures**

Safeguarding remained a dominant theme. Both the **Jay** and **Wilkinson Reports** condemned the Church's failures. Jay proposed establishing two independent bodies: one for safeguarding and one for oversight, which the Church Commissioners support. Wilkinson's report criticized the ISB's governance and operations from its creation to its termination. The Synod acknowledged the need for major reforms in safeguarding policy and practice.

#### **Conduct in Church Governance**

Concerns were raised about destructive behaviour in PCCs, with calls for a **Code of Conduct** to guide member behaviour. Synod reviewed its internal Code, emphasizing discipline, especially regarding online behaviour. Though disciplinary action was deemed unnecessary, a revision of the Code with broader input was approved.

#### **Land, Biodiversity, and Net Zero**

A motion supporting the **Church's environmental commitment** was passed. Church-owned lands—including 85,000 acres of farmland and 23,000 acres of forestry—present opportunities for climate action.

Initiatives like “**Caring For God’s Acre**” were supported, alongside diocesan biodiversity action plans aligned with the **Ecodiocese scheme**.

Churches, schools, and theological colleges were encouraged to support biodiversity. A further motion called for carbon neutrality by 2030, incorporating creation care into liturgical practices and annual reporting on progress beginning in 2025.

### **Racial Justice and Representation**

Lord Boateng updated Synod on the work of the **Archbishop’s Racial Justice Commission**, emphasizing governance reform, improved data collection, and best practice sharing. Despite marking milestones like **30 years since Stephen Lawrence’s murder** and **75 years since Windrush**, only some dioceses have made substantial progress. GMH (Global Majority Heritage) clergy still face institutional racism and health-related disadvantages.

The Synod noted the underrepresentation of GMH individuals in higher clergy roles and raised concerns over the Church’s slow pace of change. The motion on racial justice passed overwhelmingly (364 in favour, none against), with calls for clearer benchmarks and project evaluation.

### **Work, AI, and Economic Ethics**

The **Diocese of Oxford** discussions on the changing nature of work due to **AI and automation**. Concerns were raised about job insecurity, underpaid lay workers and ordinands, and the potential global loss of 400 million jobs. A motion promoting the **Fairwork framework** was supported. Synod encouraged the **Faith and Order Commission** to publish theological reflections on the future of work.

### **Clergy Wellbeing and Bullying Culture**

Synod addressed toxic behaviour in some parishes, including bullying and “priest-breaking” cultures. Proposals to bar offenders from Communion or leadership roles were discussed, including allowing diocesan bishops to excommunicate in severe cases. Although the ‘**Dignity at Work**’ guidelines exist, they are rarely used. A motion passed to draft legislation to strengthen protections for clergy and lay ministers.

### **Living in Love and Faith (LLF)**

LLF discussions around same-sex relationships continued to divide the Synod. The **Church of England Evangelical Council** pushed for a schism. Despite debate, there was no two-thirds majority to implement doctrinal changes. Bishop Martyn Snow urged a “pause to reset,” but Synod voted to proceed with business, awaiting further clarification.

### **Slavery Reparations and Historical Accountability**

The **Church Commissioners** addressed historical ties to slavery through Queen Anne’s Bounty and the South Sea Company. Archbishop Welby apologized, outlining a **£100 million reparation fund** over nine years, with additional investments in mission and racial justice. Key allocations included:

- £100m for historical justice initiatives
- £3.6bn for central mission/ministry
- £25m specifically for racial justice

### **Clergy Pensions and Financial Redistribution**

A motion proposed restoring clergy pensions to 2011 levels, citing rising living costs and financial strain among retired clergy. It passed with support. **Bishop Matthew** moved to redistribute Church Commissioners’ funds toward **Diocesan Stipend Funds**, referencing a £2.6bn contribution to the Pension Scheme since 1997. The motion was adjourned for further consultation.

### **Parochial and Administrative Changes**

- **Parochial Fees** were capped at a 5% increase amid inflation concerns.
- The **Chancel Repair Measure** placed full responsibility for chancel repairs and cathedral finances with the Church Commissioners.
- Amendments to **Standing Orders** were adopted, including alerting members via bell for upcoming votes.

### **Private Members’ Motions**

One motion challenged the current **ordination process for divorced candidates**, particularly where abuse was involved. Present procedures require contacting ex-spouses, causing retraumatization. An amendment passed that restricted investigations to exceptional cases.



## Family and Society: 'Love Matters' Report

The **'Love Matters'** report explored how churches could support modern families. Key recommendations included:

- Valuing all family types
- Supporting relationships and singleness
- Empowering youth
- Promoting a compassionate society

Although an amendment to reaffirm traditional marriage as the preferred state failed, the report was well received.

## Ukraine War and International Engagement

The Church voiced concern about **Russia's war on Ukraine**, denouncing the **Russian Orthodox Church's political involvement**. Anglican bishops called for the defence of international law and religious freedom. The Church of England is training chaplains to serve in Ukraine and expressed solidarity with refugees.

## Church Funds Measure

A motion passed to consolidate various diocesan, PCC, and Cathedral funds—worth £3bn—into a single **Charity Authorised Investment Fund**, regulated by the Charity Commission and exempt from VAT. This move aims to improve efficiency and reduce administrative costs.

## Diocesan and Synod Updates

- **Deanery Synod Representation** reform was passed with minor abstentions.
- **Appointments:** New Bishop of Wolverhampton and Dean of Lichfield announced.
- **Budget 2025:** Approved with a spending cap of **£16.4 million**.
- **Farewells:** The Diocesan Secretary was thanked for 15 years of service.

**Question Time** covered 23 written inquiries, though some follow-ups were cut for time.

## Spiritual and Strategic Reflections

Bishop Matthew's Presidential Address highlighted clergy wellbeing, the aftermath of Brexit and COVID-19, and the need to refocus on community care, refugees, and the environment. Bishop Michael warned against Assisted Dying and encouraged engaging communities through visible Christian witness, notably referencing the rebuilding of **Notre Dame Cathedral**.

Amanda Robbie, new Chair of the House of Laity, postponed discussions on national financial allocation due to incoming data and expected changes.

## Conclusion

The Synod year reflected deep engagement with complex issues—ranging from safeguarding failures, systemic racism, AI's disruption of work, and financial reform, to theology, environmental stewardship, and the impact of war. It highlighted a Church wrestling with internal discipline, external accountability, and a vision for justice, wellbeing, and renewal in a changing world.

**Revd. Richard Merrick**

*Vicar*

## Wolverhampton Deanery Synod Report

During 2024 the Deanery Synod met on three occasions in February, June and October.

**In February** the Synod Discussed the Purpose and Mission of the Deanery. There was a number of suggestions which included appointing a Deanery Youth Worker; a Deanery Building Officer, Improving Communications across the Deanery i.e. Develop Social Media usage etc. enabling us to work as a Deanery including: Pastoral care; Developing Lay Ministry; Training Together; Home Communion;.

It was agreed we would need to do research re-funding. It was agreed we would need to ask PCCs and DCCs to reflect on this and to feedback.

At every Deanery Synod all parishes are asked to feedback and share with each other what is going on in their parish. Our feedback was to report on our Christingle Services, the Marathi Church meeting twice each month, the Lent course focussing on prayer and the work of the Job Club.

**In June**, the Synod was presented with the finalised '**Shaping for Mission**', strategy, which was the Diocese's long-awaited 2024–2030 Strategic Framework. This document proposed 9 key goals that the Church in the diocese would focus on they are:

1. A growth in the overall worshipping community of 34,000 new disciples
2. 200 new worshipping Communities which are established and sustainable
3. A strengthened culture of vocation amongst God's people, and at least 30 new licensed lay ministers and 30 ordinations a year.
4. An active plan in every parish for engaging with their local population beyond the church walls.
5. A strong connection between every primary and secondary school and their parish church.
6. No fewer than 30 young people per year aged between 18 and 30 who are called to leadership being supported through high-quality development programme offered by the Diocese.
7. The age profile of each worshipping community reflecting the age profile of the community which it serves.
8. Every worshipping community reflecting the diversity of the community they serve.
9. All people being able to see themselves reflected in the leadership and governance of the Diocese.

The expectation being that PCCs/DCCs will have the opportunity to discuss the nine points identified and feedback, ultimately to the Acting Archdeacon in early October.

The Synod then had a very complete presentation from the **University Chaplaincy**, headed 'Mission Field on our doorstep' presented by Revd Preb Sarah Schofield [Assistant Rural Dean]. The presentation included two students who told us about their experiences after joining university. At the end the Synod split up for discussion and feedback.

The Synod moved on to discuss the **Diocesan Synod Elections**. Wolverhampton Deanery was allowed a total of 6 representatives of 3 Laity and 3 Clergy.

Anne Abbiss **Safeguarding Officer** stressed the importance of ensuring every officer was up to date on all regulations and that all church members knew who they were.

**News from the Parishes** Holy Trinity gave the news that Rev Kate Tingle, had taken up the position of Rector of St Thomas Church Wednesfield. The deanery Living Faith Course would start in September. The raising of £1500 for Christian Aid was also mentioned.

**In October** the Synod met and elected Robin Whitehouse as Vice Chair.

They held a wide-ranging discussion on the Finances of the Synod and Missional giving.

The Living Faith course had started well with over 20 people from a range of parishes near and far. Held on a Monday evening led by Gill Brackett and Bill Nicholls with support from Diocesan members.

Parishes gave feedback concerning the Diocesan Strategic Report [ see June statement above]

The parishes were then involved in a wide-ranging discussion of How, When, and Where do we pray together. It was generally agreed that churches could be more strategic in their approach to prayer.

This was followed by all parishes presenting news and vacancy updates.

**Rita Duru, Bill & Margaret Nicholls**  
***Holy Trinity PCC Deanery Synod Reps***

## **Nurture Team Report**

**Team** - Emma Hammond, Tracey Charles, Fran Oliver, Alison Vassell, Donna Booth, Catherine Trevor, Rob Vassell and Neil Bradley.

**Church youth work** - Rooted continues to be a safe space where youngsters can be nurtured and develop a sense of responsibility and belonging.

The youngsters had yet another wonderful opportunity and were able to go on an all-inclusive holiday with CPAS Ventures during the summer. Six youngsters went to Repton Preparatory School, Derby for a week and studied the Gospel of Mark. growing and exploring in faith, building their confidence, trying new activities, and meeting other young people. They took part in drama workshops, sports, arts and crafts, discussion groups, and trips out. It was great to see the positive impact of this when we collected them.

**Senior School work** - Youngsters struggling with their mental health has not lessened any in 2024, if anything the crisis has worsened. Over the year Emma has mentored 24 young people, with the work focusing on the areas of concern of isolation, loneliness, self-harm, resilience, bullying, anxiety etc. Easter and Christmas assemblies were led by Emma and Richard and the whole school came for their student-led Christmas carol concert (approx 1080).

**Primary School work** - The schools curriculum programme implemented by Emma has continued, and each year group has visited the church (approx 630 pupils). Themes covered have been: What do Christians believe God is like? Why does Christmas matter to Christians? What do Christians learn from the creation story? What is it like to follow God? What did Jesus do to save human beings? What does it mean if God is holy and loving?

Year 5 led their Easter service, which was very moving, whilst Year 6 led us into Christmas with their service. The team continues with their worship to KS1 and KS2 on Biblical themes.

**Children's work** – Kingdoms Builders continues to grow, and the children share together in their learning and faith. Building strong relationships has been key and because of this the children are thriving in this group.

**Trinity Toddlers** - This ran until the summer but sadly came to an end due to leadership stepping down and a lack of volunteers.

**Adult Discipleship** – The Living Faith course started in the autumn and is progressing well.

**MMBB** Meet twice a month on Mondays from 10am - 11.30am in the church hall, for a time of Friendship & Fellowship. We averaged 13 adults at our Bible study over the past year.

During the year we have studied Islam and Judaism, followed by Parables of Prayer and Forgiveness. We have looked at two ladies - Priscilla and Lydia followed by the first four chapters of Revelation.

Everyone is most welcome to the group

**Sunday Services** – During the year our children and young people are keen and regular readers of scripture and intercessory prayers. They assist with the offertory as well as the preparation of the communion table.

Over the year the Nurture have helped lead Easter Messy Church, held a community light trail, where 55 attended and a Christmas movie night.

In the Autumn we began activity sessions once a month at Place of Welcome, with themes like arts and crafts, puzzles and games.

It was great to see faithful and new people come together to make up the Christingle bags. The children and young people lead the Christingle service, which was such a joy to see.

We held baptism and confirmation courses and saw 5 baptised and 9 confirmed - God is good!

In 2025 Donna Booth will be stepping into the role of Nurture Team leader. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the team for all their support and hard work over the last few years, and I wish them all the best for the future.

**Emma Hammond**  
*Team Leader for Nurture*

## **Pastoral Care Team Report**

This is our prayer for Holy Trinity - **“And may the Lord make (our) love for one another and for all people grow and overflow...”** 1 Thessalonians 3:12

The Pastoral Care Team, with the help of many others, seeks to enable and provide appropriate support for all who call Holy Trinity their church, walking alongside one another as Christ walks alongside us.

The monthly **Community Friendship Group** is going well, enjoying a range of activities including board games, skittles, variety shows, and meals out. It's been encouraging to see some new members coming along and joining in this year. Thanks to everyone on the team who run this group.

**Coffee and Chat monthly mornings** provide great opportunities for people to get to know one another and enjoy friendship, fellowship and food! Thanks to Anne and her team who run this group.

Thanks to Maria and her team of volunteers who run **Place of Welcome** provides a place every Saturday morning, where people from both church and the community can find a welcome, hospitality, friendship and space. It was great in November that Holy Trinity was chosen to host the celebrations marking 200 Places of Welcome being registered in the Lichfield Diocese. Each month, thanks to Donna, there is an activities morning for all ages and people have been invited to decorate biscuits, build with Lego, and have a go at different craft activities.

We were pleased to be able to run a **'Grave Talk'** afternoon in February. This provided an opportunity to talk openly, in small groups about issues surrounding death and dying – a subject that tends to be taboo in our society. All those who attended found it a useful time and we are hoping to be able to hold another session in the near future. Thanks to Margaret and Jayne for organising it.

Thanks to Doreen and her team who have organised three **Women's Fellowship** gatherings during the year, which have been well attended with the ladies enjoying food, faith and fellowship together.

The **Connect Circles** are our system of pastoral support at Holy Trinity, through which we hope and pray that as a church we can build friendship and support and look out for one another and encourage and build one another up– which is all part of being 'the body of Christ' as the Bible calls us as a church. Thanks to all the Connect Circle Leaders who keep in touch with those in their circles and who are the first port of call if help or prayer is needed.

The Pastoral Care teams seeks to encourage individuals, coming alongside people in times of need; providing **Home Communion**s for those unable to attend church, long or short term, and visiting those who are sick or housebound.

The **'Card sending'** ministry is appreciated by those in the church who have been bereaved, and those who are very unwell or in hospital. It is good for them to know that as a church we are thinking of them and praying for them.

A team from church lead bi-monthly services at **New Cross Care Home** and monthly services at **Verona Court** which have been well received and reasonably well attended. Thank you to all those who lead these special times for the residents, and to Anne and Barbara who also run a small 'Bible Stories' group with the residents at New Cross.

**The PrayerLine** enables urgent or immediate prayer requests to be sent round via email, text and phone. This is on-going and open to anyone who needs such prayer, by contacting the clergy or one of the Pastoral Team. Thanks to Alison for overseeing this ministry.

All those who run the groups are conscious of the importance of being **inclusive and accessible** to all people, and to check that provision is made for those who need some assistance with, or adaption to, the activities. **Safeguarding** is recognised as vitally important for all those involved in pastoral ministry –

both to protect those who are being visited or supported, and also to protect those giving the care and support to others.

**Thank you to the Pastoral Care Team** – to Anne Abbiss, Alison Vassell, and Margaret Mills, and to all who share in this important ministry of showing love, care and support to the church family.

**Gill Brackett**

***Team Leader for Pastoral Care***

## **Proclaim Team Report**

### **Mission**

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.

### **Responsibilities**

Oversight and planning of our church's programme of worship and prayer. Developing a programme of outreach and evangelism.

### **Members**

Richard Merrick, Emma Bland, Gill Brackett, David Cope, Liz Cope, Josh Charles, Tony Charles, Emma Hammond, Bill Nicholls

### **Frequency of meetings**

Quarterly

### **A year in summary**

The Proclaim Team is responsible for organising leaders, preachers, intercessors, readers, musicians, projector operators, for services through the year. In addition, below is an outline of the things that were implemented or discussed during the year – some of these cross over and were taken on by other mission areas.

### **Actions**

January

- The Music Group started trying to meet fortnightly for music practice - practising for every 11.15 service. It was felt this was proving beneficial.
- Discussed feedback from the Inclusion Survey and agreed actions relevant to the Proclaim Team.

March

- A Memorial Service took place on the evening of the 23<sup>rd</sup> March

April

- On Good Friday there was an all-age service in the morning, followed by hot cross buns and a joint walk of witness with Harvest Temple.
- Easter Saturday there was a 1pm event with other churches in Queens Square.
- Easter Sunday: Joint 10.30am service

May

- Ascension Service was held 9th May.
- Education Sunday was held 12<sup>th</sup> May: Pupils from Trinity Primary Academy came and lead the 11.15am service.
- Pentecost Sunday services took place 19<sup>th</sup> May.

## June

- 'Love Your Churchyard' weekend on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June, with an outdoor service on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 11.15 am.

## July

- A Memorial Service took place on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> July.
- A 'favourites' list of songs was compiled for worship leaders to choose from, for services.
- The Prayer Strategy was updated. Items included were Unity of the Church, an Attitude of Welcome and Inclusivity, Children and Young People, NHS and New Cross, Unemployment, IT/AI, the Wish for More Volunteers, Thanksgiving for Provision, New Developments on the land next to Heath Town Estate.
- The Bishop of Lichfield gave permission to use reserved sacrament for Holy Communion, as long as it's not the main service. This was used during August to cover summer holidays.
- The electoral roll was due for its 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary renewal. The electoral roll and church family contact list were combined into one list.

## August/September

- A Summer series on Creationtide began, running over four weeks, ending with harvest.
- A Harvest Festival and Gift Day took place on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

## October

- A Black History Month service was held on 27<sup>th</sup> October.
- The musicians got together to discuss the Music Director role - what it should look like, if it should be split and how that might work. It was agreed it would be good to have a lead musician longer term; as just managing now. It was decided to pick up again in the Spring.
- It was decided to set up a ramp for disabled access to the music area.
- We looked at the 'Shaping for Mission' Template and prepared responses.

## November

- Remembrance Sunday services were held on 10<sup>th</sup> November: a poppy cascade and display were put up in church.
- A Memorial service was held on the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> November.

## December

- The service on 22<sup>nd</sup> December was used as a Baby Basics Gift Service.
- Christmas leaflets were distributed in the parish.
- A range of Christmas services were held:
  - 18<sup>th</sup> December: a Quiet Christmas evening service
  - 24<sup>th</sup> December: a joint service at 10.30am, followed by two Youth group Christingle services later that day. Midnight Communion was also held at 11.15pm.
  - 25<sup>th</sup> December: A joint service at 10.30am.
  - 29<sup>th</sup> December: A joint service at 10.30am.

## January

- Covenant services were held on 12th January.
- The Proclaim Team reviewed responses to the Time and Talents questionnaire asking people what areas of ministry they'd like to get involved in.
- Easter leaflets and services planned.

### ***Other things which emerged and are still on our radar***

- We continue to pray and look out for possible new musicians/singers and for a new lead person/(s) for this ministry.
- We continue to consider live streaming and internet in church: until internet issues are resolved, services are being recorded and uploaded to YouTube.
- We continue to look for outreach and evangelism opportunities.

**Emma Bland**

***Team Leader for Proclaim***

## **Sustain and Renew Team Report**

### **Inclusion and Diversity**

Steve Hopley reminded us, again, that it is important that when we have House Groups, venues should be listed that are accessible for those who cannot manage steps. We also need to flag up on House Group sign-up lists which venues have downstairs loos. We should by now be more sensitive to these issues. NOTE: a 4 feet long folding aluminium access ramp has now been purchased, which can be used for a future venue. A suitable house that will use this should be added to any new venue list.

### **Buildings**

1. We remain hampered by our need for capital for big repairs ("seed capital"). We cannot even apply for the main grants without already having 50% or 30% of the money needed.  
We have quotes in place for work such as the car park, north aisle roof, and north porch draft-proofing doors, but no seed capital... As a church we need to address this long-term problem. It is not good stewardship to avoid planning for inevitable maintenance costs. We are still paying back a loan for unforeseen work, from when the kitchen servery and toilet were put in. (A rising damp problem, uncovered when the old wooden flooring was removed.)
2. Lychgate: W-ton Council has backed off from this. However, we have sufficient funds already in place to start basic repair work. This is scheduled to start June or July 2025. More extensive work to re-instate metal railings and regild the memorial plaques cannot go ahead due to lack of funds.
3. The north aisle roof needs the lowest 5 feet of tiles removing, and the underfelt and battens renewing. Also, some tiles will need replacing, as these have started to delaminate due to frost damage. Funding... is being sought.
4. The stone wall fronting Bushbury Road has a section that is leaning inward alarmingly, and may fall inwards within a year or two. About a ten metre length needs taking down and rebuilding. Funding is lacking, and it is unlikely to get a grant as it is not seen as essential work...
5. A strip drain has now been put at the bottom of the concrete slope near the Vicar's Vestry now that there is a proper connection to the original church drains. The chevron diverting strip which prevented a pond from forming previously, has now been removed.
6. Removal of vegetation from the north chancel roof was done this year, along with some planned re-mortaring work (stone roof crosses and other assorted roof edging work). This was covered by a grant. Unfortunately, a further £16,000 was suddenly needed when rotten roof timbers were uncovered. The rot was caused by bad workmanship, probably back in the 1970's when some leadwork beneath the visible mortar was omitted, and some roof tiles were left shorter than they should have been. This highlights the need for reliable contractors, and good supervision of the work (and back-up funds). Roof vegetation will reoccur within a few years unless the problem of very tall overhanging trees is addressed. Tree roots are now also starting to lift tarmac in the carpark and the path between the Vicar's Vestry and the North Porch. On the south side of the church building two trees in particular are shedding large amounts of vegetation onto the roof. We are also now starting to get leaves lodging in the very high

guttering of the main roof - an area that is inaccessible to clean out without spending thousands of pounds on scaffolding. Two trees on the south side must be cut hard back or removed.

7. The music group area has been extended up to the communion rail now, to ease the very cramped conditions for singers and musicians. All costs have been covered by donation.
8. New stainless-steel handrails have been added to the south porch exit, to aid those needing them for a rapid emergency exit. Material costs £310. Work donated.
9. Church and Hall buildings have had the intruder alarms replaced by a new Smart System allowing remote management, monitoring and control. This was provided and is maintained by a new provider, Inspire.
10. Outside and Churchyard lighting control has been changed from a timer to a day light sensitive controller.

## **Grounds**

- A. Frank Lockley has stepped back from organising the grounds work schedule and team. Sylvia Gilbert has taken up the role in his place. In the past year Frank has successfully led and organised the Gardening Team, to a series of national initiatives, including 'Churches Count on Nature' April and June 2024, where individuals were encouraged to record biodiversity in the churchyard and 'Love your Burial Ground Week'.
- B. Additional signage within the churchyard has helped with direction around the Churchyard. This had assisted HTHT winning another Lichfield Diocese Churchyard Awards GOLD award and Nature Friendly award in 2024. Thanks to Frank for leading this effort.
- C. We would like to express our grateful thanks to Frank for all his work over the years, and his continued commitment to the Churchyard Team.
- D. The Gardening Team continue to meet during the spring and summer months.
- E. An eco-friendly moss killer has been used on the tarmac paths around the church.
- F. 3 lamps in the churchyard, on the approach to Church Gardens, have been replaced by The Sir Josiah Mason Trust and are now working fine.
- G. All other churchyard lamps have been maintained with several replacement bulbs and repairs and are now working fine.
- H. Over the year, there have been about 7 fly tipping incidents along the lane from Powell Street to Church Gardens, leaving a vast amount of rubbish. The rubbish has been cleared several times by putting into church bins, taking to the tip by car and storing behind the church hall awaiting for a skip to be ordered. The police and the Council have been informed with little done until finally evidence from one of the final events lead the Council to the owner of the rubbish and then to the person tipping the rubbish who has been dealt with, and no further rubbish has been tipped until March 2025, when a further amount was tipped.
- I. 1 dead tree, noted in the last quinquennial, has been removed by church volunteers.
- J. The petrol-powered blower, used to move debris and leaves, had become beyond economic repair and so a new battery powered blower has been bought which uses the same battery as our electric mower.
- K. A new 2 stroke trimmer has been purchased, to supplement the available trimmers due to breakdowns and further volunteers joining the ranks.
- L. The Council weekly collection of 2 large 1100 litre bins has been reduced to 1 large 1100 litre bin, this saves the PCC about £600 per year. Apart from Mothering Sunday, Easter and Christmas when much rubbish is created, the rest of the year works with 1 bin okay. There is little capacity now for disposing of fly tipping waste in the bins.



- M. The weekly churchyard volunteers have 2 new members and have continued to maintain the wider churchyard by emptying bins, litter picking, mowing and strimming grass, trimming hedges and bushes when needed and filling subsidence and holes as they appear.
- N. Our ECO Church awards accreditation has lapsed due to not being led by a volunteer. We now have 2 new ECO Church volunteers who we are hoping will picking this up on behalf of the PCC.

**Sylvia Gilbert**

**Church Warden** On behalf of the Sustain and Renew Team

### **Transformation Team Report**

With no member of the PCC or the church congregation coming forward ,the post of lead person for this area of ministry has remained vacant since the Rev. Kate Tingle left to take up the post of Rector of St Thomas's Wednesfield.

However, there continues to be a group of church members involved in or who have contact with local community groups working in the area, including the CAN Consortium, and the church facilities continue to be well used by the community.

Place of Welcome continues to flourish as does the monthly Friendship Group where numbers attending have grown. Likewise, Coffee and Chat and Baby Basics.

The Heath Town Baths project which was set to bring new life to this Grade 2 listed significant building has fallen through, the building left gradually decaying. There are currently no plans for this building. During the year, the church requested to join the CAN Consortium and in early 2025 formally joined the Consortium. Currently the Consortium are working on a further 5 year Reaching Communities Lottery bid. This will include an element of part-funding for the Families and Community Worker the church is looking to develop.

**David Cope**

**On behalf of the Transformation Team**

## **THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Holy Trinity Church  
Heath Town  
Wolverhampton  
WV10 0LY**

**For The Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town**

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**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Holy Trinity Heath Town  
Financial Statements for the period  
1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**

Independent Examiners Report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical parish of  
Holy Trinity Heath Town

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024  
set out on the following pages is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the  
Church Accounting Regulations 2011(the Regulations) and s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

**Respective responsibilities of PCC and the examiner**

As members you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; and consider  
that the audit requirement of s144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that  
an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under  
s145 of the Act, state on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the  
Charities Commissioners under s145(5)(b) the Act, and state whether particular matters have come  
to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiners' report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions under s145(5)(b) of the  
Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2011 edition. That examination includes a review of  
accounting methods kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with these  
records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and  
seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken  
do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is  
given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those  
matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiners' statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the  
requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and  
to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and regulations  
have not been met, or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper  
understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Bytheway and Co.*

**Bytheway & Co Chartered Certified Accountants**  
Heame House  
23 Bilston Street  
Sedgley  
Dudley  
DY3 1JA

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town  
Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		£	£	£	£	£
			2024			2023
Incoming resources						
Voluntary income	2(a)	80,455	-	49,013	129,468	102,920
Charitable activities	2(b)	12,566	-	-	12,566	13,952
Other trading activities	2(c)	4,085	-	-	4,085	1,220
Investment income	2(d)	1,196	-	-	1,196	1,245
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>98,302</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,013</b>	<b>147,315</b>	<b>119,337</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>						
Raising funds	3(a)	158	-	-	158	263
Charitable activities	3(b)	94,811	-	67,591	162,402	133,599
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>94,969</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,591</b>	<b>162,560</b>	<b>133,862</b>
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in value of Investment</b>	*	<b>1,351</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,351</b>	<b>3,947</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>4,684</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(18,578)</b>	<b>(13,894)</b>	<b>(10,578)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>26,095</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>129,575</b>	<b>158,670</b>	<b>169,248</b>
<b>Transfers</b>		<b>(4,223)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,223</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>26,556</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>115,220</b>	<b>144,776</b>	<b>158,670</b>

\* Includes increased value of investment

\*\* See note 10 for full comparatives for 2023

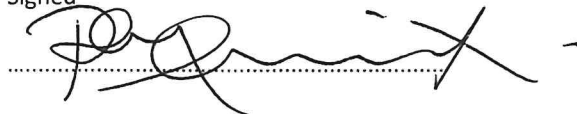
**Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible assets for use by the Church	5(a)	98,966		106,295	
Investment	5(b)	<u>26,890</u>	125,856	<u>45,539</u>	151,834
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	6	16,157		9,683	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>32,421</u>		<u>22,181</u>	
		48,578		31,864	
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(13,529)</u>		<u>(5,504)</u>	
Net Current Assets			<u>35,049</u>		<u>26,360</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			160,905		178,194
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due after one year					
<b>Loan</b>	8		16,129		19,524
<b>Net Assets</b>			<u>144,776</u>		<u>158,670</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Unrestricted Funds			17,568		26,095
Designated Funds			3,000		3,000
Restricted Funds			124,208		129,575
			<u>144,776</u>		<u>158,670</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and signed on their behalf

Signed



**Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1 Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) published on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) the Charities Act 2011 the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention modified to include certain items at fair value.

**Funds**

**Unrestricted funds** are funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purpose.

**Restricted funds** comprise of two elements:-

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest,

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

**Income**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Resources expended**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

**Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts by s10(2)(a)&(c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the Financial Statements.

Equipment is capitalised if it can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost.

The depreciation is 25% straight line

The Kitchen is depreciated at 5% straight line.

**Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town**  
**Notes to the accounts continued**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**2. Analysis of incoming resources**

	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>(a) Voluntary income</b>			
Tax efficient planned giving	41,313	-	41,313
Other planned giving	5,831	-	5,831
Tax recovered	1,858	-	1,858
Tax due Apr - Dec 24	10,000	-	10,000
Collections (open plate)	9,754	-	9,754
Donations	4,648	-	4,648
Youth worker grants and donations	-	13,000	13,000
Youth event income	-	300	300
School managers fund	2,730	-	2,730
Churchyard and war graves	648	-	648
Lichgate fund	-	5,000	5,000
Cefn Lea	-	500	500
Coffee and chat	-	164	164
Wolverhampton Deanery	-	508	508
Energy grant	-	-	-
Building Fund	-	27,961	27,961
Trinity Toddlers	-	155	155
Baby Basics	-	1,425	1,425
VAT Reimbursement	3,751	-	3,751
Sundry income	- 78	- -	78
	<b>80,455</b>	<b>49,013</b>	<b>129,468</b>
<b>(b) Income from church activities</b>			
Fees	12,566	-	12,566
	<b>12,566</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,566</b>
<b>(c) Other trading activities</b>			
Church hall lettings	4,085	-	4,085
	<b>4,085</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,085</b>
<b>(d) Income from investments</b>			
CBF shares	1,196	-	1,196
	<b>1,196</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,196</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>98,302</b>	<b>49,013</b>	<b>147,315</b>



Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town  
Notes to the accounts continued  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

3. Analysis of resources expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	Total £	2023 Total £
<b>(a) Cost of generating voluntary income</b>				
Stewardship envelopes	158	-	158	263
	158	-	158	263
<b>(b) Church activities</b>				
<b>Ministry</b>				
Diocesan common fund	33,131	-	33,131	32,481
Fees paid to Diocese	3,041	-	3,041	2,301
	36,172	-	36,172	34,782
<b>Other ministry costs</b>				
Working expenses of incumbent	108	-	108	103
Working expenses of curate	-	-	-	-
Discretion	60	-	60	250
Vicarage	250	-	250	250
Visiting speaker	850	-	850	750
	1,268	-	1,268	1,353
<b>Church running and maintenance</b>				
Heat and light	5,268	-	5,268	5,270
Upkeep of churchyard	956	-	956	463
Insurance	5,055	-	5,055	4,612
Maintenance	3,314	31,410	34,724	7,643
Security and fire protection	-	1,602	1,602	1,350
Music	710	-	710	710
Church service costs	1,070	-	1,070	980
Kitchen depreciation	-	7,050	7,050	7,050
	16,373	40,062	56,435	28,078
<b>Church Hall running and maintenance</b>				
Heat and light	2,390	-	2,390	2,610
Water and sewerage	1,185	-	1,185	1,404
Telephone and internet	787	-	787	688
Maintenance	1,846	-	1,846	293
Equipment depreciation	279	-	279	279
	6,487	-	6,487	5,274

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town  
Notes to the accounts continued  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

3. Analysis of resources expended continued

	2024		2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	
	Funds	Funds	Total
	£	£	£
<b>(b) Church activities continued</b>			
<b>Other church related costs</b>			
Youth ministry	248	-	248
Youth Events	-	2,183	2,183
Household disposables and refreshments	791	-	791
Printing, stationery and computer expenses	2,366	-	2,366
Expenditure on books and resources	617	-	617
Childrens ministry	2,087	-	2,087
Trinity Toddlers	-	29	29
Courses/Away days	311	-	311
Postage	102	-	102
Affiliation fees	115	-	115
Admin expenses	-	-	-
Resources	-	-	-
Evangelism and outreach	1,043	-	1,043
Independent examination and accounts preparation	1,620	-	1,620
Coffee & chat	-	790	790
Wolverhampton Deanery	-	113	113
CEFN Lea	-	500	500
Gifts	-	-	-
Sundry expenses	3	-	3
Technology AV	-	-	-
Bank charges	-	-	-
Loan interest	1,023	-	1,023
	10,326	3,615	13,941
<b>Salaries and honoraria</b>			
Youth worker	2,953	22,021	24,974
Administrator salary costs	8,029	-	8,029
Cleaners, organist and verger	5,543	-	5,543
Payroll administration	378	-	378
Youth worker costs	562	-	562
	17,465	22,021	39,486
<b>Missionary and charitable giving</b>			
<b>Overseas</b>			
Leprosy mission	-	-	-
Bible society	700	-	700
Crosslinks	1,055	-	1,055
Christian solidarity	350	-	350
Mission aviation in fellowship	250	-	250
Barnabas fund	-	-	-
	2,355	-	2,355

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town  
Notes to the accounts continued  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

3. Analysis of resources expended continued

	2024		2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	
	Funds	Funds	Total
	£	£	£
<b>(b) Church activities continued</b>			
<b>Missionary and charitable giving</b>			
<b>Home</b>			
C.P.A.S.	600	-	600
Childrens society	10	-	10
Wolverhampton connect	500	-	500
Mercian Trust	350	-	350
Love Black Country	300	-	300
Good Shepherd ministries	600	-	600
The Message Trust	300	-	300
Christians against poverty	400	-	400
Baby basics	-	1,893	1,893
Stop Hate UK	100	-	100
The Well	600	-	600
Transforming communities together	-	-	-
Samaritans Purse	-	-	-
	<b>3,760</b>	<b>1,893</b>	<b>5,653</b>
			<b>4,651</b>
<b>Community Parish</b>			
Hope Family Centre	300	-	300
NPVAN	200	-	200
Black history month	-	-	-
	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>
			<b>1,200</b>
<b>Other</b>			
Small donations	55	-	55
National churches trust	50	-	50
	<b>105</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>105</b>
			<b>50</b>
<b>Total Church Activities</b>	<b>94,811</b>	<b>67,591</b>	<b>162,402</b>
			<b>133,599</b>

**Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

<b>4. (a) Staff Costs</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	38,546	37,209
Pension costs	562	524
	<u>39,108</u>	<u>37,733</u>

There is a full time Youth worker.  
The PCC has a part time Administrator.  
There is a part time Cleaner.  
Verger and Organists are paid by fees received.

**4. (b) PCC costs**

The PCC has a policy to reimburse any purchases made by individuals on behalf of the PCC. No other payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to or related parties.

**5. Fixed Assets**

<b>(a) Tangible</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Kitchen</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost</b>				
As at 1 January 2024	1,119	140,984	142,103	142,103
Additions	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2024	<u>1,119</u>	<u>140,984</u>	<u>142,103</u>	<u>142,103</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
As at 1 January 2024	558	35,250	35,808	28,749
Charge for year	279	7,050	7,329	7,329
As at 31 December 2024	<u>837</u>	<u>42,300</u>	<u>43,137</u>	<u>36,078</u>
Net Book Value as at 31 December 2024	<u>282</u>	<u>98,684</u>	<u>98,966</u>	<u>106,025</u>

<b>(b) Investments</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
As at 1 January 2024	45,539	41,592
Redemption	(20,000)	-
Revaluation gain/(loss)	1,351	3,947
As at 31 December 2024	<u>26,890</u>	<u>45,539</u>

The holding in CBF CofE Investment Fund is 1162.92 shares. Unit value 31 December 2024 bid market unit share value 2312.27p. (December 2023 2014.54 shares bid market unit value 2260.53p)

**Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

<b>6. Debtors</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gift Aid Tax recoverable	10,000	9,300
Prepayment and Debtors	6,157	383
Grant Due	-	-
	<u>16,157</u>	<u>9,683</u>

<b>7. Creditors: amounts falling due in one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Inland Revenue	580	841
Accruals and creditors	12,949	4,663
	<u>13,529</u>	<u>5,504</u>

<b>8. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Diocese of Lichfield Loan	16,129	19,524
	<u>16,129</u>	<u>19,524</u>

**Loan details**

Resourcing parish mission on behalf of Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd  
 Kitchen Served Project

Term 7 years  
 Payable Quarterly  
 0.5% above Church Commissioners variable debt rate  
 (no lower than 1%)

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town  
Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

**9 Fund Movements**

	Balance as at 1 January 2024	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Balance as at 31 December 2024 £
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
<b>Capital Fund</b>					
Kitchen project	93,695	-	7,050	-	86,645
<b>Revenue Funds</b>					
Building fund	-	27,961	33,012	5,051	-
Youth fund	31,154	13,000	22,021	-	22,133
Youth event fund	3,100	300	2,183	-	1,217
Coffee and chat	1,322	164	790	-	696
Trinity Toddlers	38	155	29	-	164
Technology AV	1,673	-	-	-	1,673
Baby Basics	1,721	1,425	1,893	-	1,253
Lichgate fund	5,660	5,000	-	-	10,660
Cefn Lea	200	500	500	(700)	(500)
Wolverhampton Deanery	-	508	113	(128)	267
	<b>138,563</b>	<b>49,013</b>	<b>67,591</b>	<b>4,223</b>	<b>124,208</b>
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Youth fund	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	17,107	99,653	94,969	(4,223)	17,568
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>158,670</b>	<b>148,666</b>	<b>162,560</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>144,776</b>

**Restricted Funds Description**

The Church holds the following funds that are restricted

**Kitchen Project:** For construction of kitchen within church

**Building Fund:** For building repair and maintenance of church and environs and new work

**Youth Fund:** To fund the Youth Worker

**Youth Event Fund:** To fund specific youth events

**Technology AV Fund:** To support the provision of technology/AV in church.

**Coffee and Chat**

**Trinity Toddlers**

**Baby Basics**

**Lichgate fund**

**Cefn Lea**

**Wolverhampton Deanery:** To hold funds on behalf of and to finance the activities of the Deanery of Wolverhampton.

**Designated Funds**

The PCC agreed to designate £3,000 of funds to cover the Youth Worker post.

**Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**9 Fund Movements - continued**

CCLA – COIF Charities Investment Fund – Income Units Account Number 454890001T. A trust fund originally in the name of The Managers Holy Trinity Church Schools, Heath Town Wolverhampton.

The PCC bank account receives an income each year from a Trust Fund, invested in the above COIF account, for the purposes of providing general furtherance of religious education in the parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town. Such income is to be used at the discretion of the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity Heath Town. The trust fund is represented from the historical sale proceeds of land adjacent to St Faith's Church of England School within the parish. Any income received from this fund is recorded in the Financial Statements in the form of a grant to the PCC, the capital sum, administration and purposes of the trust fund are over seen by the trustees of the fund, the Incumbent and Church Wardens of the parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town.

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town  
Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

10. SOFA Comparatives

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
		£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Voluntary income	2(a)	72,774	-	30,146	102,920
Charitable activities	2(b)	13,952	-	-	13,952
Other trading activities	2(c)	1,220	-	-	1,220
Investment income	2(d)	1,245	-	-	1,245
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>89,191</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,146</b>	<b>119,337</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Raising funds	3(a)	263	-	-	263
Charitable activities	3(b)	89,821	-	43,778	133,599
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>90,084</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,778</b>	<b>133,862</b>
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in value of Investment</b>	*	<b>3,947</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,947</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>3,054</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(13,632)</b>	<b>(10,578)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>22,948</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>143,300</b>	<b>169,248</b>
<b>Transfers</b>		<b>(8,895)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,895</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>17,107</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>138,563</b>	<b>158,670</b>